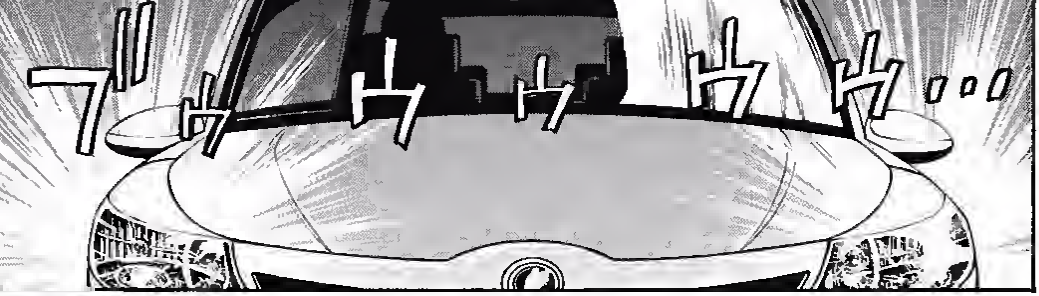

ブゥゥゥゥゥゥ…

トレセンからの帰り道。
シュダン!
14 真剣十三歳
横田卓馬

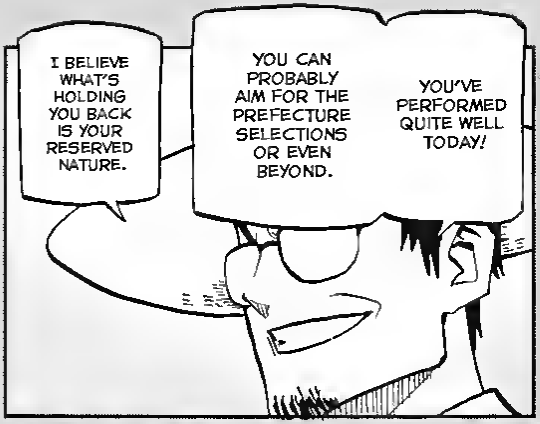
RITSU-KUN WAS REALLY GOOD, TOO.
DEFINITELY, HE'S PRETTY FAMOUS AROUND HERE.
HE MUST HAVE WORKED HARD.
YEAH, I HAD NO IDEA.
THAT DAIGO...
TO THINK HE'S A REGULAR FOR OITSU-KA SC.

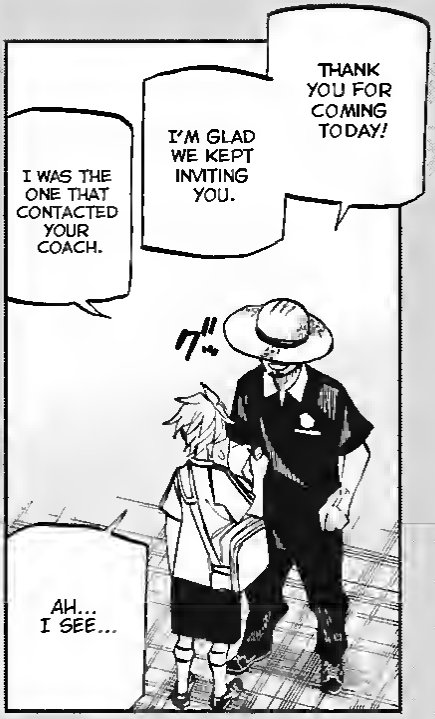
What did he go to the selection for...
THAT GUY...
GEEZ...
HAHA!
WHAT?!
I EVEN GOT RITSU-KUN'S CONTACT INFORMATION.
Y... YOU AREN'T PLANNING ON CONTACTING HIM, RIGHT NANASE?!
WELL, NOT REALLY. I DON'T HAVE A CELL PHONE.

SOUSHI! ROKU!
I'M REALLY GLAD I GOT TO MEET YOU GUYS TODAY!

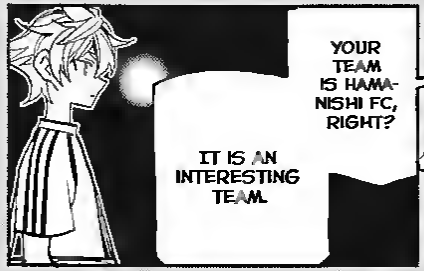
THAT'S RIGHT.
HMM... YEAH.
'CAUSE IF THAT HAPPENS, WE CAN SEE EACH OTHER HERE AGAIN!
I HOPE YOU'RE ABLE TO PASS THE SELECTION TRYOUTS!

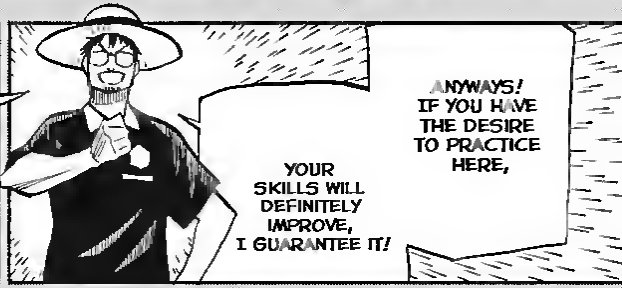
I FEEL LIKE WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AT SOME OTHER PLACE SOON!
.... AH, THIS IS JUST A FEELING, BUT...
MAYBE WE MAY FACE EACH OTHER IN THE FIRST ROUND!
ZENSHOU'S PRELIMINARY LEAGUE!
SINCE YOUR INTUITION IS USUALLY ALWAYS RIGHT.
Yeah, no thanks. I'd really like to avoid facing the district champions right off the bat!
UGH... MAYBE.
EH? OH, YES.
MOROZUMI ROKURO-KUN, RIGHT?

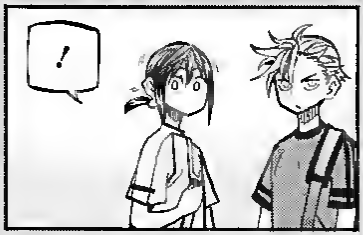

I BELIEVE WHAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK IS YOUR RESERVED NATURE.
YOU CAN PROBABLY AIM FOR THE PREFECTURE SELECTIONS OR EVEN BEYOND.
YOU'VE PERFORMED QUITE WELL TODAY!


I WAS THE ONE THAT CONTACTED YOUR COACH.
I'M GLAD WE KEPT INVITING YOU.
THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY!
AH... I SEE...

I UNDER-STAND...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.


YOUR TEAM IS HAMA-NISHI FC, RIGHT?
IT IS AN INTERESTING TEAM.


ANYWAYS! IF YOU HAVE THE DESIRE TO PRACTICE HERE,
YOUR SKILLS WILL DEFINITELY IMPROVE, I GUARANTEE IT!

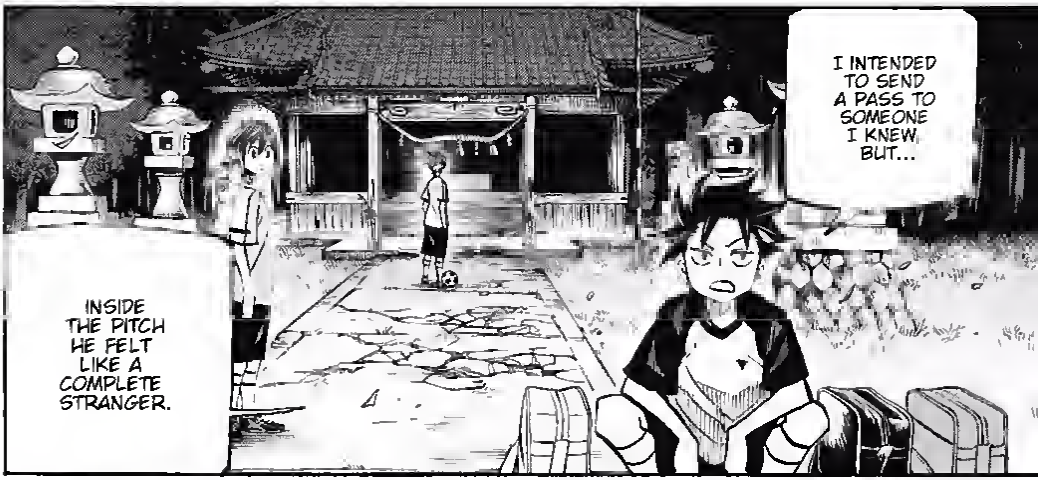

!

I...
.....

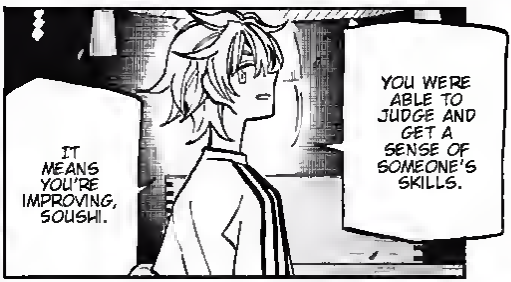
IT'S NICE TO BE ABLE TO PLAY SOCCER WITH YOUR FRIENDS, BUT...
BUT I CAN'T SAY IT'S A TEAM THAT CAN USE YOU TO YOUR FULL POTENTIAL.
IF YOU'RE AIMING HIGHER, THEN COMPETING WITH PLAYERS SIMILAR TO YOUR SKILL LEVEL WOULD BE FOR THE BEST!

I BELIEVE THAT IT'S STILL POSSIBLE TO COMPETE AT A HIGH LEVEL WHILE HAVING FUN AND PLAYING WITH MY FRIENDS.
OUR TEAM IS PRACTICING SERIOUSLY AND AIMING FOR THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT.
ALTHOUGH FROM AN OUTSIDER PERSPECTIVE IT MAY SEEM LIKE WE'RE JUST FOOLING AROUND.
SO ROKU-KUN CAN GET ANGRY, TOO...
Ahh, I messed up...
AH... NO, I'M SORRY.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO PHRASE IT WITH AN ILL INTENT.
I'M ALSO SORRY.
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
SO HE'S MOROZUMI ROKURO.
EH... RITSU-KUN, YOU KNOW ABOUT ROKU-KUN?
JUST A LITTLE. STUFF FROM THE PAST.
ANYWAYS, NANASE.
THIS IS MY CONTACT INFORMATION.
スサッ
EH?
MY BROTHER ONCE SAID, "OPPORTUNITIES BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER".
"IF THERE'S A GOOD WOMAN, DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT".
WELL, CONTACT ME IF YOU EVER FEEL LIKE IT.
バイバーイ
BUT, I...
DON'T HAVE A CELL-PHONE...

I DIDN'T THINK HE ACTUALLY BECAME THAT GOOD...
YOU KNOW ABOUT DAIGO...


INSIDE THE PITCH HE FELT LIKE A COMPLETE STRANGER.
I INTENDED TO SEND A PASS TO SOMEONE I KNEW, BUT...

.....


IT MEANS YOU'RE IMPROVING, SOUSHI.
YOU WERE ABLE TO JUDGE AND GET A SENSE OF SOMEONE'S SKILLS.

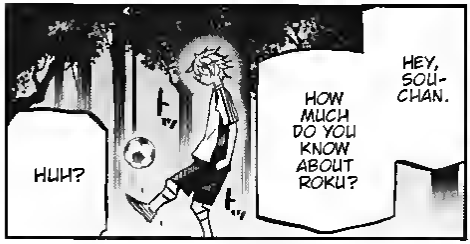
YOU WERE THE ONE THAT FELT LIKE WALKING! GEEEEZ!
LET'S CALL FOR A RIDE!
IT'S ACTUALLY A PAIN IN THE ASS TO WALK FROM HIRAKUCHI TO HOME!

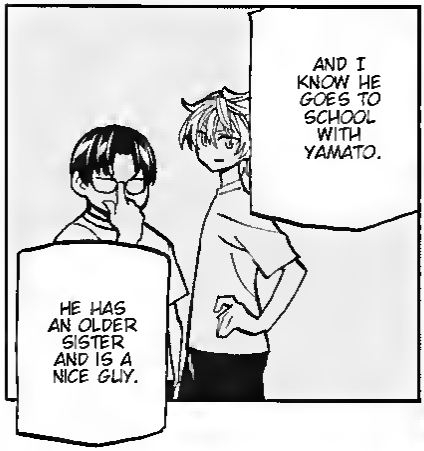
.....
ON ANOTHER NOTE,

HMM? WHAT? WHAT IS IT?
HEH.
HERE.
NANASE, YOU SHOULD GET A SMART-PHONE, TOO.
HUH...?
RINE
YASU
SOUSHI WAS PROBABLY AFRAID OF BEING SURROUNDED BY GOOD PLAYERS.
SO EVERY-ONE'S BEEN TRAINING AT THIS TIME, TOO!
YASU
I'LL CHEER YOU UP.
SHUN
WE FINISHED HERE, TOO.
KAZU
Soushi Roku Nanase
Good Luck!
YASU
GET SOME HEALING WITH THIS PIC.
YASU
HAHAHA!
HAHA-HAHA!
SHUT UP, YASU.
AND GIVE BACK DAIGO'S GAME ALREADY.
YASU
WHY DO YOU KNOW I'M STILL BORROWING DAIGO'S GAME?
YOUTA
"BORROWING" LOL
THAT PICTURE, JUST NOW...
EHH?!!

HMM... YEAH.
I AGREE.
THIS TEAM...
IT'S REALLY NICE.

EVEN IF IT'S AGAINST STRONG PEOPLE, LIKE THE ONES WE WE MET TODAY AT THE SELECTION.
GUESS WE GOTTA BELIEVE IN EACH OTHER AND DO WHAT WE CAN.

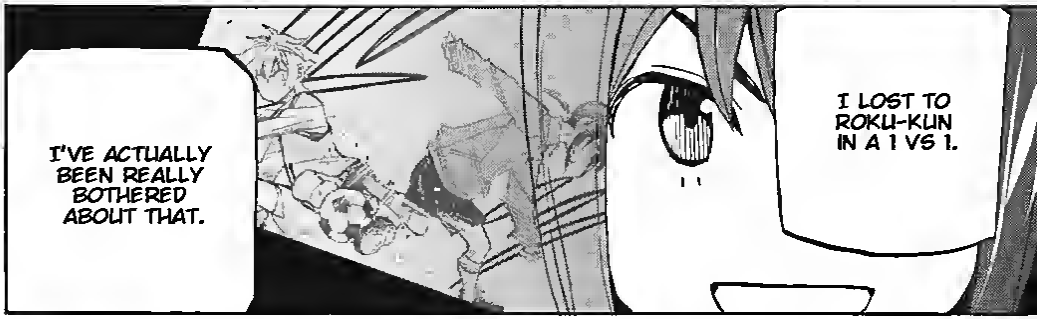

HUH?
HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ROKU?
HEY, SOU-CHAN.

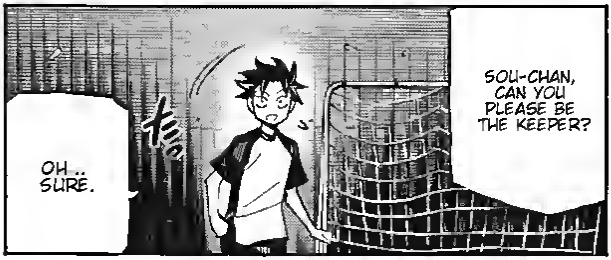

AND I KNOW HE GOES TO SCHOOL WITH YAMATO.
HE HAS AN OLDER SISTER AND IS A NICE GUY.

WHAT'S WITH THAT SUDDEN QUESTION?
I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE ABOUT HOW MUCH I KNOW.
THAT GUY HAS SOME HIDDEN POTENTIAL.

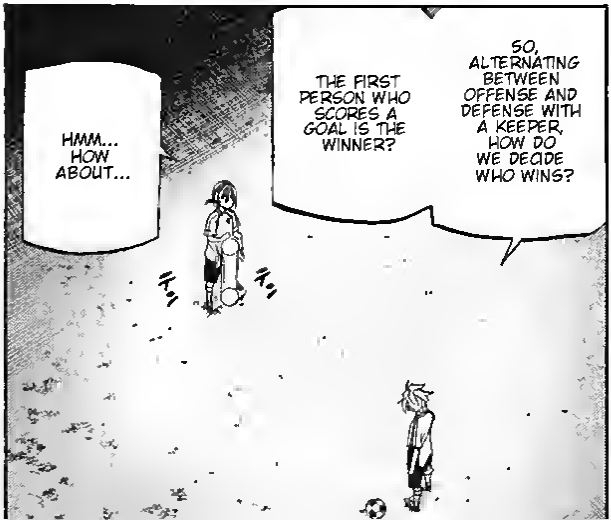
WELL I DID NOTICE AMONG BOYS THAT'S USUALLY THE CASE.
YOU DON'T REALLY ASK ABOUT IT?
WE DON'T REALLY TALK ABOUT PERSONAL THINGS AMONG GUYS.
WELL, I'M SATISFIED WITH JUST KNOWING THAT MUCH.
SOU-CHAN, ABOUT WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO...
CAN YOU NOT INTERFERE AND WATCH OVER ME?
I GUESS THIS IS THE ROLE OF A NEWCOMER!
スタ
EH? HEY...
I'D NORMALLY BE CURIOUS SO,
BUT I'M NOT A BOY.
HMM?
ROKU-KUN!
AGAINST ME!
CAN YOU HAVE A MATCH?

I JUST REMEMBERED.
WHEN I FIRST CAME TO HAMANISHI. THAT DAY.
WHAT'S UP, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
A MATCH... WITH NANASE?


I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN REALLY BOTHERED ABOUT THAT.
I LOST TO ROKU-KUN IN A 1 VS 1.


OH... SURE.
SOU-CHAN, CAN YOU PLEASE BE THE KEEPER?

SO, BASICALLY YOU WANT REVENGE.
JUST LIKE WITH KAMOSHIDA... YOU REALLY HATE LOSING, NANASE.


HMM... HOW ABOUT...
THE FIRST PERSON WHO SCORES A GOAL IS THE WINNER?
SO, ALTERNATING BETWEEN OFFENSE AND DEFENSE WITH A KEEPER, HOW DO WE DECIDE WHO WINS?

TO KEEP PLAYING UNTIL ROKU-KUN GETS SERIOUS?
DO YOU AGREE?
!
YOU KNOW, ROKU-KUN...!
EVER SINCE I FIRST MET YOU, YOU'VE NEVER...

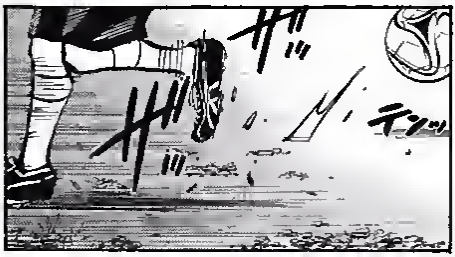
PLAYED SERIOUSLY!
THAT'S WHAT I THINK!
TSK...! THAT'S...
QUITE A CRAZY CLAIM, DON'T YOU THINK?!
TURN CUT!

FAST!
HOW DO I SAY IT!
YOU ALWAYS HOLD YOURSELF BACK!
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE BEING TOO SHY!
AS YOU PLAY SOCCER!
HRRG!

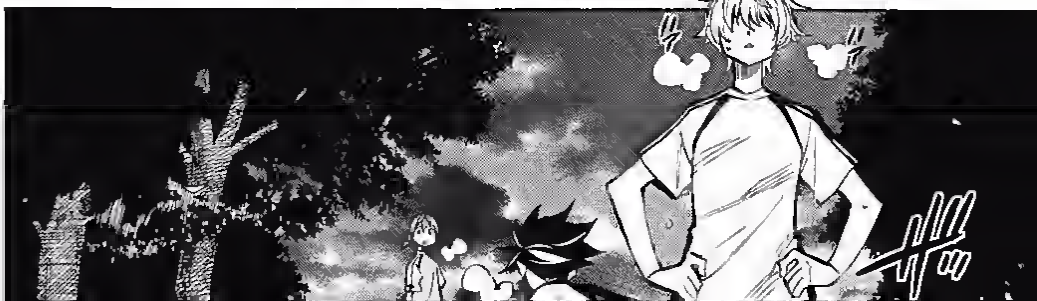
AND MADE HER SHOOT RIGHT AT ME!
HE SEALED HER SHOOT COURSE!
TCH!
SWITCH SIDES, ROKU!

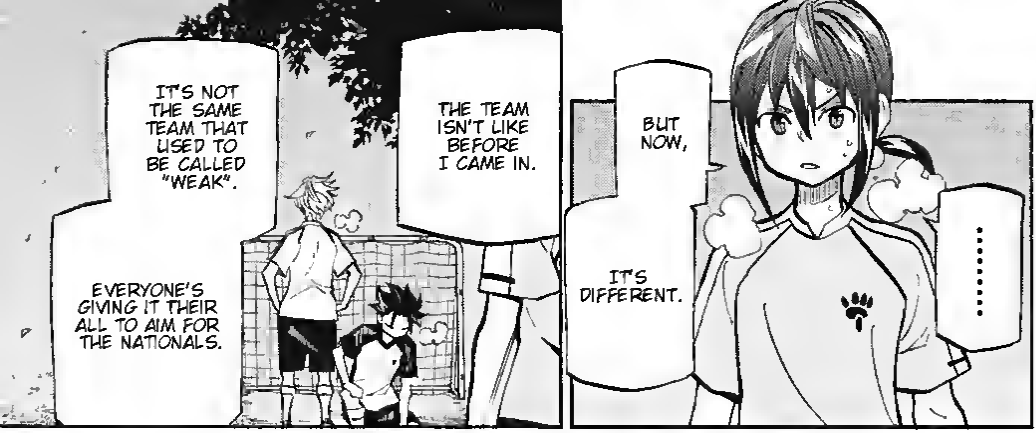
IT'S A WASTE OF TALENT IF YOU'RE NOT AROUND PEOPLE OF YOUR LEVEL!
THAT'S WHAT THE SELECTION COACH SAID!
AM I TWISTING IT, REALLY?!
BECAUSE ROKU-KUN, YOU'RE CLEARLY A LEVEL ABOVE EVERYONE IN THE TEAM!
WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THE REASON ROKU-KUN ISN'T SERIOUS,
ROKU-KUN, YOU'RE PROBABLY THINKING THAT, AREN'T YOU?!
IS IT BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP?!
IF YOU GO ANY FURTHER, EVEN I...
I UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, SO...
JUST STOP THERE.
NANASE...
THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T PLAY TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!
STOP.
THAT'S WHY ROKU-KUN HAS TO COVER FOR EVERYBODY'S MISTAKES!
QUIET ...
NA-NA-SE!
EVERYBODY RELIES ON YOU, ROKU-KUN!

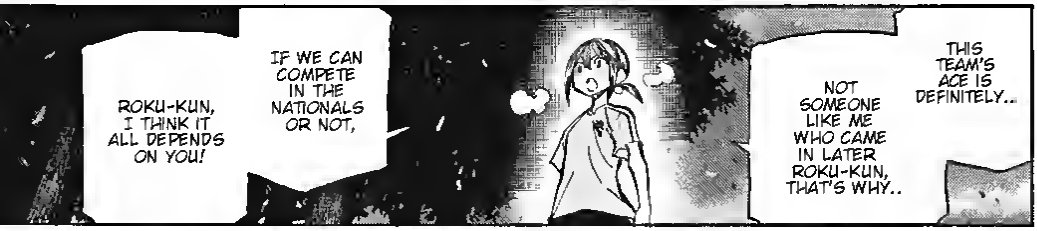
SHUT
THE HELL UP!
YOU'RE LOOKING DOWN ON EVERYONE!
AS IF YOU'RE CARRYING A WEAK TEAM!
NA-NA-SE!



TCH...!




IT'S NOT THE SAME TEAM THAT USED TO BE CALLED "WEAK".
THE TEAM ISN'T LIKE BEFORE I CAME IN.
EVERYONE'S GIVING IT THEIR ALL TO AIM FOR THE NATIONALS.
BUT NOW,
IT'S DIFFERENT.
……


ROKU-KUN, I THINK IT ALL DEPENDS ON YOU!
IF WE CAN COMPETE IN THE NATIONALS OR NOT,
NOT SOMEONE LIKE ME WHO CAME IN LATER ROKU-KUN, THAT'S WHY..
THIS TEAM'S ACE IS DEFINITELY..

SO BELIEVE IN US MORE!
WE'VE BECOME A STRONG TEAM!
STRONG ENOUGH THAT YOU CAN JUST BE YOURSELF!
⚽腹を割ったその先に、少年少女が辿り着くのは――
シュータン！
…⚽14 おわり